United Nations A/52/PV.30

General Assembly
Fifty-second Session

Official Records

30th plenary meeting
Tuesday, 14 October 1997, 10 a.m.
New York

President: Mr. Udovenko . . . . . (Ukraine)

The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Agenda item 120 (*continued*)

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (A/52/350/Add.4)

The President: In a letter contained in document A/52/350/Add.4, the Secretary-General informs the President of the General Assembly that, since the issuance of his communications dated 16 and 29 September and 6 and 8 October 1997, Dominica has made the necessary payment to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter.

May I take it that the General Assembly duly takes note of this information?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 15

Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs

(a) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council

The President: This morning the General Assembly will proceed to the election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council to replace those members whose term of office expires on 31 December 1997.

The five non-permanent outgoing members are the following: Chile, Egypt, Guinea-Bissau, Poland and the Republic of Korea. These five States cannot be re-elected and therefore their names should not appear on the ballot papers.

Apart from the five permanent members, the Security Council will include in 1998 the following States: Costa Rica, Japan, Kenya, Portugal and Sweden. The names of those States, therefore, should also not appear on the ballot papers.

Of the five non-permanent members which will remain in office in 1998, two are from Africa and Asia, one is from Latin America and the Caribbean and two are from Western European and other States.

Consequently, pursuant to paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 1991 A (XVIII) of 17 December 1963, the five non-permanent members should be elected according to the following pattern: three from Africa and Asia, one from Eastern Europe and one from Latin America and the Caribbean. The ballot papers reflect this pattern.

In accordance with established practice, there is an understanding to the effect that, of the three States to be elected from Africa and Asia, two should be from Africa and one from Asia.

I should like to inform the Assembly that the number of candidates, not exceeding the number of seats

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to be filled, receiving the greatest number of votes and a two-thirds majority of those present and voting will be declared elected.

In the case of a tie vote for a remaining seat, there will be a restricted ballot limited to those candidates which have obtained an equal number of votes.

May I take it that the General Assembly agrees to that procedure?

It was so decided.

The President: In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, the election shall be held by secret ballot, and there shall be no nominations.

Regarding candidatures, I have been informed by the Chairmen of the respective regional groups that for the three vacant seats from among the African and Asian States there are three endorsed candidates, namely, Bahrain, Gabon and the Gambia.

From among the Eastern European States, there are two candidates for one vacant seat. The candidates are Slovenia and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

As for the Latin American and Caribbean States, Brazil is the endorsed candidate for one vacant seat.

In accordance with rule 92 of the rules of procedure, we shall proceed now to the election by secret ballot.

Ballot papers marked "A", "B" and "C" will now be distributed.

I request representatives to use only those ballot papers that have been distributed and to write on them the names of the five States for which they wish to vote.

A ballot paper containing more names from the relevant region than the number of seats assigned to it will be declared invalid. Names of Member States on a ballot paper which do not belong to that region will not be counted.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Mmualefe (Botswana), Miss Gordon (Jamaica) and Mr. Hussin (Malaysia) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The meeting was suspended at 10:40 a.m. and resumed at 11:25 a.m.

The President: The result of the voting is as follows:

Group A — African and Asian States

Number of ballot papers:	174
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	174
Abstentions:	0
Number of Members voting:	174
Required two-thirds majority:	116
Number of votes obtained:	
Bahrain	172
Gabon	171
Gambia	169
Zambia	1

Group B — Eastern European States

Number of ballot papers:	174
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	174
Abstentions:	4
Numbers of Members voting:	170
Required two-thirds majority:	114
Number of votes obtained:	
Slovenia	140
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	30

Group C — Latin American and Caribbean States

Number of ballot papers:	174
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	174
Abstentions:	6
Numbers of Members voting:	168
Required two-thirds majority:	112
Number of votes obtained:	
Brazil	167
Argentina	1

Having obtained the required two-thirds majority, the following States were elected members of the Security Council for a two-year term beginning 1 January 1998: Bahrain, Brazil, Gabon, the Gambia and Slovenia.

The President: I congratulate the States which have been elected members of the Security Council. I also

thank the tellers for their assistance in this very important election, and I would like the Assembly also to applaud them.

This concludes our consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 15.

Programme of work

The President: I should like to inform delegations that at 10 a.m. tomorrow, 15 October, in Conference Room 4, the General Assembly will meet to consider the report of the Fifth Committee on sub-item (a) of agenda item 142, entitled "Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations".

The report of the Fifth Committee, which will be issued tomorrow morning as document A/52/453, recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution which concerns, *inter alia*, the financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy. As members may be aware, the financing of the Logistics Base ends on 15 October, and by adopting the draft resolution the General Assembly would authorize the Secretary-General to enter into commitments on a monthly basis in the amount of $812,000 for the maintenance of the Logistics Base for the period from October 1997 to 30 June 1998.

Immediately after the adjournment of that plenary meeting of the General Assembly, the second meeting of the open-ended informal consultations of the plenary on agenda item 157 will be held in the same Conference Room.

The meeting rose at 11.35 a.m.